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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/522,449	03/09/2000	Jun Hee Kim	40706.00009	2925

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EXAMINER

NGUYEN, CHANH DUY

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2675

DATE MAILED: 06/04/2003

10

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/522,449

Applicant(s)

KIM ET AL.

Examiner

Chanh Nguyen

Art Unit

2675

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 13 March 2003.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-19 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 6-18 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5 and 19 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1. The amendment filed on March 13, 2003 has been entered and considered by examiner.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).
4. Claims 1-5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Furuhashi et al (U.S. Patent No. 6,121,947) in view of Ueda et al (U.S. Patent No. 5,739,887) and further in view of Ninomiya et al (U.S. Patent No. 5,532,935) .

Art Unit: 2675

As to claim 1, Furuhashi discloses a liquid crystal monitor drive apparatus for driving a liquid crystal panel including a connector for inputting an analog graphic signal (e.g., an analog video signal 102 from computer 101 inputted to A/D converter 104). It is well-known in the art to have clock signal inputted to the computer (for example, examiner cites the reference of Mitra et al U.S. 5,422,807 to show clock inputs 20 inputted to computer 10, even acknowledged by applicant on the related art Figure 2, page 4, lines 21-22 of the specification). Furuhashi teaches an analog-digital converter (104) arranged to convert the analog graphic signal (102) from the connector into digital graphic data, a scaler (118) for scaling the definition of the digital graphic data, a timing controller (120) arranged to drive the liquid crystal panel based on the digital graphic data from the scaler.

The only thing different from the reference of Furuhashi and claim 1 is that Furuhashi does not mention an integrated circuit and a peripheral circuit coupled to inverter for driving a back light unit. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to have combined a number of electronic components into an integrated circuit so that the device is more compact. Ueda teaches integrated circuit driver (IC) and multi-layered flexible substrate display controller (101). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the invention was made to have used an integrated circuit as taught by Ueda or Ito or prior art to the liquid crystal display device of Furuhashi so as to reduce the display device size and weight; see column 7, lines 23-34 of Ueda.

Both Furuhashi and Ueda do not mention a peripheral circuit coupled to inverter for driving a back light unit. In same field of endeavor, Ninomiya teaches a peripheral circuit (43) coupled to an inverter (45) for driving back light unit (47); see figure 1. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the invention was made to have added a peripheral circuit coupled to inverter for driving backlight as taught by Ninomiya to the liquid crystal device control device of Furuhashi as modified by Ueda so that the current supplied to the back light can be reduced in response to the lower analog signal, thereby reducing power consumption (see column 8, lines 53-58 of Ninomiya).

As to dependent claims 2-5, these claims are met by Furuhashi combining with the device of Ueda or Ito or prior art. That is Furuhashi teaches the analog-digital converter (104), the scaler (118), and the timing controller (120) recited in claim 3 as well as the frame memory (110) connected with the scaler as recited in claims 2-4 and 5.

5. Claim 19 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Furuhashi in view of Ueda and Ninomiya et al as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Oshima et al (U.S. Patent No. 6,535,985).

As to claim 19, note the discussion of Furuhashi, Ueda and Ninomiya, none of them mentions the peripheral circuit operating with a frequency signal much lower than that of the clock signal. Oshima teaches a peripheral circuit (i.e. first processor 4) coupled to back light unit (25) operating with a frequency signal much lower than that of the clock signal (i.e. clock frequency of a second processor 7); see column 8, lines 8-12.

Art Unit: 2675

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the invention was made to have provided a peripheral circuit operating with a frequency signal much lower than that of the clock signal as taught by Oshima to the liquid crystal display control unit of Furihashi as modified by Ueda and Ninomiya so that the service life of batteries will largely be increased.

Response to Arguments

6. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-5 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

In view amendment, the reference of Ninomiya and Oshima have been added for new ground of rejection.

Conclusion

7. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Mitra et al (U.S. Patent No. 5,422,807) is cited to teach a well-known feature clock signal inputted to a micro controller.

Kotha et al (U.S. Patent No. 6,115,032) is also cited a connector (450) for inputted clock signal (CLK)

Ichise (U.S. Patent No. 5,786,801) is cited to teach LCD back light control unit.

8. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP

Art Unit: 2675

§ 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Inquiries

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Chanh Nguyen whose telephone number is (703) 308-6603.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner supervisor, Steven Saras can be reached at 305-9720.

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Washington, D.C. 20231

Art Unit: 2675

or faxed to:

(703) 872-9314 (for Technology Center 2600 only)

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121

Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA, Sixth Floor (Receptionist)

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Technology Center 2600 Customer Service Office whose telephone number is (703) 306-0377.



C. Nguyen
May 22, 2003


CHANH NGUYEN
PRIMARY EXAMINER